[45] Date of Patent:

Apr. 23, 1985

[54] RETINALLY STABILIZED DIFFERENTIAL RESOLUTION TELEVISION DISPLAY

[75] Inventor: Carl F. Ruoff, Jr., La Crescenta,

Calif.

[73] Assignee: The United States of America as

represented by the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, D.C.

Administration, washington

[21] Appl. No.: 425,204

[22] Filed: Sep. 28, 1982

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

3,507,988	9/1966	Holmes	358/133
4,028,725	6/1977	Lewis	358/109
4,349,815	9/1982	Spooner	340/705
4,405,943	9/1983	Kanaly	358/133

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Fisher, Ralph W., "Remote Viewing System," published in *Remotely Manned Systems—Exploration and Operation in Space*, California Institute of Technology, 1973, pp. 229–238.

Merchang, John, "The Oculometer in Remote Viewing Systems," published in Remotely Manned Systems—Ex-

ploration and Operation in Space, California Institute of Technology, 1973, pp. 239–250. Lo F. Christy, "Purkinje Image Eyetracker" SRI International, Mar. 1979.

Primary Examiner—Michael A. Masinick Assistant Examiner—Edward L. Coles Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Paul F. McCaul; John R.

Manning; Thomas H. Jones

[57] ABSTRACT

A remote television viewing system employing an eye tracker is disclosed, wherein a small region of the image appears in high resolution, and the remainder of the image appears in low resolution. The eye tracker monitors the position of the viewer's line of sight. The eye tracker position data is transmitted to the remote television camera and control. Both the remote camera and television display are adapted to have selectable highresolution and low-resolution raster scan modes. The position data from the eye tracker is used to determine the point at which the high-resolution scan is to commence. The video data defining the observed image is encoded in a novel format, wherein in each data field, the data representing the position of the high-resolution region of predetermined size appears first, followed by the high-resolution zone video data and then the lowresolution region data. As the viewer's line of sight relative to the displayed image changes, the position of the high-resolution region changes to track the viewer's line of sight.

12 Claims, 6 Drawing Figures

